

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 23, 2015 AT 5:00 PM

Mayor Horne opened the meeting by announcing that this was an open meeting of the Common Council. Notice of this meeting was given to the public at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by forwarding the complete agenda to the official City newspaper, the New Richmond News, and to all news media who have requested the same as well as posting. Copies of the complete agenda were available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the City Clerk's office.

Roll call was taken.

Members Present: Mayor Horne, Alderman Kittel, Ard, Jackson, Hansen, Volkert, and Zajkowski.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Zajkowski moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman Hansen, and carried.

**Capital Improvement Projects - Interviews**

Jeremiah Wendt gave an update on the status of capital improvement projects. He has talked with Lakeside Foods, Richmond Township and Star Prairie Township regarding proposals for engineering services on shared projects. Requests for Proposals were sent out and Cedar Corporation and Short-Elliott-Hendrickson submitted proposals. Russ Kiviniemi, from Cedar Corporation, discussed their engineering proposal and answered questions. Dave Simonds, from Short-Elliott-Hendrickson, discussed their proposal for engineering services and answered questions. Jeremiah Wendt explained that both proposals are similar with SEH being higher on the hourly rate, but lower for overall costs. Alderman Hansen moved to direct staff to prepare a contract with SEH for engineering services, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

**Impact Fees**

Beth Thompson presented information regarding impact fees. Staff recommended using the REU calculation and the EDC also recommended using this method. Considerable discussion followed. The needs assessment will be sent out in the next two weeks and will be discussed at the April 13<sup>th</sup> council meeting. There was discussion regarding different impact fees for TIF districts. Alderman Ard moved to direct staff to move forward on the REU method for impact fees, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

**Commons/Library Discussion & Next Steps**

The Phase II report from Leo A. Daly has been sent out and also was presented to the commons partners last Wednesday. Mike Darrow gave a review of the information in this report. Discussion followed. There will be a GEN meeting on March 30, 2015 and the information will be presented to that group as well. Cost estimates for the commons building exceed 20 million dollars. The School Board and Council need to discuss whether to use the \$500,000 in the next 45 days. Funds can be used for possible demolition of the building. After the GEN meeting, the council and school board will pick a date to have a joint meeting.

**Ordinance #474 Well Operation Permit**

Jeremiah Wendt discussed the proposed ordinance. The Town of Star Prairie and the Town of Richmond will look at this ordinance and adopt it to protect our water system that serves a portion of their residents. Discussion followed. Alderman Ard moved to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance #474, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

**Seasonal Help**

Mike Darrow reported that the candidate chosen for the Management Analyst position has accepted the offer, but cannot begin until the end of May, 2015. Mike requested to hire an intern to fill this position from now until May 10, 2015 to help with projects. Alderman Kittel moved to hire an intern to fill this position until May 10, 2015 at a cost of \$3,200, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried. Alderman Hansen abstained.

**Communications & Miscellaneous**

Alderman Ard reported that the VFW will be at the bike and car show at the Xcel Center promoting Loyalty Day and the Moving Wall. They will also be in Eau Claire on public radio promoting these events and will be appearing on Twin Cities Live. Beth Thompson stated that Backyard Paradise had a groundbreaking today and will be digging shortly.

Alderman Ard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Tanya Reigel  
City Clerk